

Application No.: 10/016,797  
Amendment dated: January 9, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of October 9, 2003

b.) Remarks

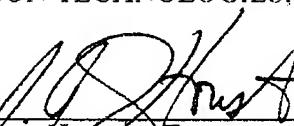
Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending in this application. Claim 1, 3, and 7 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. Claim 2 and 8-14 have been cancelled.

With the foregoing amendments, the application should be in condition for allowance. Claims 2-5 and 7 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2, claims 3 and 7 are now independent.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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